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6 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 6 April 1960

PRESENT: Gen. Cabell, Mr. Gray, Mr. Harr, Mr. Knight(Defense),
Mr. McCone, Mr. Merchant, Mr. Riddleberger,
Mr. Scribner, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Smith

1. Group Sponsored by Mrs. Patterson

Mr. Gray said that Mrs. Robert Patterson, widow of the former Secretary of War, has organized a group of young women who will take an active interest in the international political situation. A meeting of this group will be held in New York on 18 May and Mrs. Patterson is seeking an appropriate speaker to address the group on "The Communist Threat." She felt that the individual could come either from the Government or outside it, but had asked Mr. Gray to assist. He inquired particularly of Gen. Cabell whether any CIA official would be available for this purpose and the latter agreed to explore the possibilities.

2. Propaganda on Arms Control

Mr. Harr circulated a paper which he had written on the above subject and the group then discussed it. Mr. Harr's principal point was that there is need for "a new thrust to the U.S. position before the world" with respect to this question.

Gen. Cabell made the comment that whatever evolved along these lines should be carefully designed so as not to complicate the fairly simple and straightforward stand taken by the U.S. with regard to disarmament, i. e. that we are for disarmament to the fullest extent possible, commensurate with adequate inspection and control.

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3. Release on "Davy Crockett"

The Defense representative submitted to the group the proposed release on the "Davy Crockett" tactical nuclear weapon.

Mr. Merchant urged that if Defense feels that such a release is essential, every effort be made to insure that it is played in a low key and that the announcement is made by an official in the field and not by someone in Washington. Mr. McCone said that he still feels publicity on this weapon should not be sought at this time, and that he wants to explore the matter further. With these reservations, the OCB expressed no further disagreement with the Defense proposal.

4. Lazy S

Mr. Gray then reverted to a discussion of the proposed ICBM shot into the South Atlantic, known as the Lazy S. He reviewed the usual practices with regard to safety precautions, warnings to ships, etc. He then inquired whether the Board saw any necessity to hold up the preliminary ship movements necessary to backstop the shot if it is to be held in early May as planned.

The Board discussed at some length the various political and other factors involved but came to no firm agreement. In this connection the Acting DCI expressed the opinion that it appears these factors are not essentially different in the case of the Lazy S from those pertaining to other missile tests.

Mr. Merchant said that he had certain personal reservations about this particular test, although he was not at all sure that the Secretary of State would share them. He said that he wanted to discuss the matter with the latter before taking a stand on behalf of the Department.

5. Tiros Satellite

The Board agreed that it will be particularly important to secure interagency coordination of all public releases on the Tiros satellite, in view of the sensitive political and other implications of its functioning. It was decided that the Working Group on Outer Space would be charged with doing this in the first instance. Gen. Cabell added that such coordination will become even more important in the future as more sophisticated satellites are developed.

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6. Statements of Objectives in OCB Papers

The Board then engaged in a discussion of how national objectives should be shown in OCB Operations Plans. The subject was examined at length but no particular conclusions were reached.

7. Resolutions on Captive Nations

Mr. Merchant reported that Congressional leaders had asked the State Department for its comment on two resolutions now pending in the House and Senate on the subject of Captive Nations. He said that the Department has not yet commented on the resolutions but the preliminary thinking is that it will probably advise Congress that it has no objections to the resolutions on this subject which are couched in general terms and which do not list individual areas, a number of which are clearly integral parts of the USSR.

8. Somalia Army

Mr. Merchant brought the Board up to date on the latest developments in this situation. He pointed out that the U.S. position remains that armies of this type should be discouraged to the fullest extent possible, but that if it appears inevitable that Somalia would turn to the bloc for assistance, the Italians should be urged to fill the gap.

(This point was developed further in the open meeting. Another memo on the subject will be circulated by Mr. Parrott.)

9. U.S. -USSR Civil Air Agreements

Mr. Gray asked what the status of this matter is. The State Department representative replied that the USSR has just answered a U.S. note of 1958, with a request for a very prompt answer. He said that Department officials are thoroughly involved with other international air negotiations and that unless others perceive an overriding interest in coming to grips with the question before the Summit, the Department proposes to let negotiations develop in due course.

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It was noted that there might be a possible conflict between negotiations of this type and existing U.S. policy which calls for containment of Soviet bloc aviation. It was decided that the Aviation Working Group should explore this aspect.

(This subject was raised again briefly in the open meeting. Mr. Merchant added that preliminary Department thinking is that the basis for negotiation would probably be restricted to reciprocal New York-Moscow runs.)



C. P. CABELL
General, USAF
Acting Director

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